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Letter dated 21 September 2000 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my letter to the President of the Security Council dated 30 December 1999 (S/1999/1296), I informed the Council of my decision to appoint Mr. Berhanu Dinka as my Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region, at the Assistant Secretary-General level. The Security Council concurred with my decision (S/1999/1297).

In his capacity as my Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region, Mr. Dinka has been, inter alia, sounding out the views of countries in the region regarding the proposed organization of an International Conference on the Great Lakes; representing me at meetings and deliberations under the Arusha peace process on Burundi; and addressing the regional dimensions of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through, among other steps, close interaction with my Special Representative in that country.

With respect to Burundi, the signing of the Arusha peace agreement on 28 August 2000 has created a momentum towards a comprehensive agreement to which all parties subscribe. In view of this, it continues to be desirable for Mr. Dinka to stay engaged within the overall efforts of the international community to address the grave political and humanitarian situation in Burundi and its regional dimensions.

In view of the above, it is my intention to seek the extension of the mandate of my Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region until the end of December 2001.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. Annan

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